

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION
PROGRAM EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

February 25, 2010, 2:00 p.m.
IAC Offices, 100 N. Senate Avenue Room N505
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Earl Williams, Chairperson

Minutes

Members present: Jeanne Mirro (ex-officio), Linda Levell

Members present via teleconference: Sandi Clark, Suzie Rentschler, Pam Hicks, Judy Hess

Members absent: Earl Williams, Kelly Schreckengast, Carol Trexler, Linda Goad

IAC staff present: Lewis Ricci, Michelle Anderson, Bobbie Garver, Susan Britsch, Kristina Davis, Dennis Hardin

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** Ms. Mirro convened the meeting at 2:04 p.m. and welcomed everyone, and asked everyone to introduce themselves.
2. **Consent Agenda.** Ms. Clark moved to adopt the consent agenda. Ms. Levell seconded the motion. The motion passed.
3. **Affect of Budget Reductions on Grant Programs – Project Support.** Mr. Ricci began by explaining proposed changes to the Regional Arts Partner system, which will be discussed at the next quarterly business meeting on March 12. Because of severe cuts in the IAC state budget, certain grant categories may be better-administered centrally. Project grants for arts organizations that had previously gone through the RAP system may become a new granting category. These grants will be somewhat smaller in size than the current AOS-I and AOS-II grants. He asked for input from the committee regarding priorities for project grants, keeping in mind that project grants have a higher likelihood of reaching rural areas, but such grants will likely be monetarily smaller due to budget restrictions.
4. **FY 2011 IAP Artist Access Category Applications.** The Artist Access category for Individual Artist (IAP) grants is a new category for FY2011, funded by a \$30,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts in conjunction with the national Accessibility Leadership award won by IAC. \$26,000 of this money was earmarked to fund IAP grants for artists with disabilities, with the expectation that 13 \$2,000 grants could be awarded. Twenty-two applications were received and were reviewed by an independent panel which met on February 23. Accessibility Coordinator Kristina Davis presented a handout (attached) showing the final rankings determined by the panel. The top 13 scorers had submitted requests totaling \$24,736; including the 14th-ranking application would bring the total of requests to \$26,736, which Ms. Davis regarded as a workable total. Mr. Ricci cautioned the committee to carefully consider taking the 14th-lowest scorer into the approved group, especially since the average score of

applicants in this category is somewhat below the average scores seen in other IAP categories. Ms. Davis added that the panel had been impressed by the application and had remarked that the application warranted funding. After a lengthy discussion, Ms. Hess moved to recommend to the full commission that the top 14 ranked applications be approved for funding. Ms. Hicks seconded the motion. The motion passed.

5. Indiana Artisan Update. In the stead of Artisan Project manager Eric Freeman, Ms. Garver presented a handout (attached) prepared by Mr. Freeman outlining recent and overall progress in the program. She invited committee members to read the report more fully at their convenience. Mr. Ricci reported that the Indiana House of Representatives passed a resolution, sponsored by Representative Eric Koch, recognizing the Indiana Artisan as “the states official program to identify, support, and promote high quality, handmade items from Indiana”. As the Artisan Project enters its last year of state funding, plans are being made to transition the program to a sustainable not-for-profit organization. Forty-six counties in Indiana have at least one designated Artisan.

6. Old Business. There was no old business.

7. New Business. Ms. Britsch reported that the state-wide finals for the Poetry Out Loud competition will be held at the Indianapolis-Marion County Central Library on Saturday, February 27, with the winner advancing to national finals in Washington D.C. in April.

8. Adjourn. Ms. Rentschler moved for adjournment. Ms. Hess seconded the motion. The motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.